

SWITCH TESTING APPARATUS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An apparatus for testing a switch is provided that permits the performance of a
5 switch to be reliably tested and to precisely determine a host of parameters that
collectively define the performance of the switch. The apparatus includes a stage
upon which the switch is mounted. The apparatus also includes an actuator for
actuating the switch and a positioning device, such as a micrometer, for controllably
positioning at least one of the actuator and the stage such that the actuator actuates the
10 switch. The apparatus may also include a measurement device for monitoring the
electrical condition of the switch as its state is altered. For example, the measurement
device may monitor a measure representative of the electrical resistance such as
voltage drop across at least two contacts of the switch. Additionally, the
measurement device may monitor travel of at least one of the actuator and the stage.

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